

Minute

Meeting of the Cross – Party Group on Pakistan in the Scottish Parliament

Wednesday 8th June 2016

Committee Room 1

18:00

Present

Mr Mahboob Ditta
Nadeem Ashraf
Amer Masood
Mr James Dornan MSP
Mr Murdo Fraser MSP
Mr Richard Lyle MSP
Mr Anas Sarwar MSP
Mr Finlay Carson MSP
Mr Douglas Ross MSP

1. Welcome

Mr Dornan explained why he had convened the meeting. After a brief discussion surrounding the Convenorship of the CPG it was agreed that there would be a rotational Convenorship. This was proposed by Mr Dornan and seconded by Mr Carson. This was agreed unanimously.

2. Apologies

There were no apologies submitted. It was agreed that Mr Willie Rennie MSP should be contacted and asked if he wished to resume his membership from the previous session.

3. Introductions

The group made formal introductions.

4. Procedures

It was agreed to adopt the standard operating procedures issued by Parliament.

The group further agreed to continue with the aims and the objectives of the group as set out in the previous Parliamentary session.

The Convener spoke to the Code of Conduct for MSP's in relation to Section 6 of the 2nd Volume of the Code of Conduct. This was noted by elected members.

The Cross Party Group Registration Form would be completed and submitted to the CPG support unit for filling.

5. Election of Office Bearers

After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Group required a convener and a secretary. As the group did not have any financial concerns there was no need to elect a treasurer.

After further discussion the early decision to have a rotational convenorship between Mr Dornan, Mr Fraser and Mr Sarwar and Mr Rennie was formally agreed unanimously.

Mr Ameer Masood was elected unanimously as secretary.

6. AOCB

Discussions centred around the work of the Group in the preceding session of Parliament. There was a view that a Youth subcommittee should be formed from the Pakistani Community to seek their views and on the issues that the CPG should be discussing. This would also further the integration work that is currently underway within the community.

It was also agreed that the Woman's Group should continue and feed into the CPG.

Mr Fraser raised the possibility of examining air links between Pakistan and Scotland and explore how the CPG could interact in that field. Mr Dornan raised his links with the CPG on Turkey and would attempt to secure a contact with Turkish Airlines to move this forward.

7. Close and Date of the next meeting

No date was agreed.

The meeting closed at 18:47 with a vote of thanks to the Chair.